

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus
communicatively linked to ~~which communicates with~~ an IC card, ~~on which information can~~
~~be recorded, to read~~ for reading out information recorded in the IC card, comprising:

information acquisition means for acquiring said information recorded in said IC card;

information storage means for storing said information acquired by said information
acquisition means;

information processing means for performing a predetermined process ~~for said~~
~~information in preparation for displaying said information on a visual display~~; and

information display control means for controlling display of said information acquired
by said information acquisition means on the visual display.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An information processing method for an information
processing apparatus communicatively linked to ~~which communicates with~~ an IC card, ~~on~~
~~which information can be recorded, to read~~ for reading out information recorded in the IC
card, comprising:

~~an information acquisition step of~~ acquiring said information recorded in said IC card;

~~an information storage step of~~ storing in an electronic memory the acquired ~~[[said]]~~
~~information acquired by said process of said information acquisition step~~;

~~an information processing step of~~ performing a predetermined process on a processor
of the information processing apparatus ~~for said information in preparation for displaying the~~
information on a visual display; and

~~an information display control step of controlling display of the acquired~~ [[said]]
information on the visual display acquired by said process of said information acquisition
step.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~A program for causing a computer to perform a~~
~~process of communicating with an IC card, on which information can be recorded, to read out~~
~~information recorded in the IC card, the program comprising:~~ A computer readable storage
medium encoded with a computer readable program configured to cause an information
processing apparatus communicatively linked with an IC card for reading out information
recorded in the IC card to execute a method, the method comprising:

~~an information acquisition step of acquiring said information recorded in said IC card;~~
~~an information storage step of storing in an electronic memory the acquired~~ [[said]]
information acquired by said process of said information acquisition step;

~~an information processing step of performing a predetermined process on a processor~~
~~of the information processing apparatus for said information in preparation for displaying the~~
information on a visual display; and

~~an information display control step of controlling display of the acquired~~ [[said]]
information on the visual display acquired by said process of said information acquisition
step.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus
communicatively linked to ~~which communicates with an IC card, on which information can~~
~~be recorded, to read~~ for reading out information recorded in the IC card, comprising:

IC card detection means for detecting said IC card ~~which is~~ in a communicatable
state, said detecting being in preparation for displaying said information on a visual display;

type discrimination ~~detection~~ means for discriminating ~~detecting~~ a type of said IC card detected by said IC card detection means;

information acquisition means for acquiring the information stored in said IC card when ~~when~~ [[if]] a result of ~~said discrimination~~ by said type discrimination means indicates that said IC card is a legal type card; and

information display control means for controlling display of said information acquired by said information acquisition means on the visual display.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said IC card is a contactless IC card communicatively linked to ~~which communicates with~~ a communication apparatus positioned in the proximity thereof.

Claim 6 (Original): An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said detection means includes detection signal outputting means for outputting a predetermined detection signal, and response acquisition means for acquiring a response to said detection signal supplied from said IC card to said information processing apparatus and outputted from said detection signal outputting means, said detection means detecting the IC card which is in a communicatable state through acquisition of said response by said response acquisition means.

Claim 7 (Original): An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the information includes identification information of said IC card and balance information of electronic money recorded in said IC card.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the information recorded in the IC card is encrypted using an encryption key, ~~wherein the information recorded in the IC card is information encrypted using a suitable one of encryption keys different among different types with regard to the IC card, and said information processing apparatus further comprising:~~

identification information requesting means for ~~issuing a request for~~ requesting the identification information of said IC card;

decryption key supplying means for supplying a decryption key corresponding to the encryption key ~~for being~~ used to decrypt said information to said IC card; and

identification information acquisition means for acquiring the identification information of said IC card decrypted by said IC card using said decryption key ~~supplied from said decryption key supplying means,~~ ^{[[;]]} said type discrimination means discriminating the type of said IC card based on said type of said decryption key used for the decryption of said identification information ~~of said IC card acquired by said identification information acquisition means.~~

Claim 9 (Original): An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said information display control means controls display of said information so that said information may be displayed for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

remaining time counting means for counting remaining display time when said information is displayed for said predetermined period of time under the control of said information display control means.

Claim 11 (Original): An information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said information display control means causes said remaining display time counted by said remaining time counting means to be displayed together with said information.

Claim 12 (Original): An information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said information display control means causes said remaining display time to be displayed in the form of an indicator or a message.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising:

sound outputting means for outputting a predetermined sound in synchronism with a start of the display of said information ~~under the control of said information display control means to issue as a notification that the information is being displayed of said start of display of said information.~~

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An information processing method for an information processing apparatus communicatively linked to ~~which communicates with~~ an IC card, ~~on which information can be recorded, to read~~ for reading out information recorded in the IC card, comprising:

~~an IC card detection step of detecting said IC card which is in a communicatable state,~~
the detecting being in preparation for displaying said information on a visual display;

~~a type discrimination step of discriminating a type of said IC card detected by the process of the~~ detecting said IC card ~~detection step;~~

~~an information acquisition control step of~~ acquiring said information stored in said IC card ~~[[if]]~~ when a result of said discrimination by the process of the discriminating the type of said IC card ~~discrimination step~~ indicates that said IC card is a legal type card; and

~~an information display control step of~~ controlling display of said acquired ~~[[said]]~~ information ~~acquired by said process of said information acquisition control step~~ on the visual display.

Claims 15-28 (Canceled).